

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of operating an electronic mail (email) system, comprising ~~including the steps of:~~

~~(e)~~ enabling a sender to compose an email and initiate a send operation to one or more recipients in respect of the email;

~~(f)~~ intercepting the email sent by the sender;

~~(g)~~ presenting the email to the sender in such a way that the sender can amend the email; and

~~(h)~~ in response to a specified triggering event dependent on satisfaction of the senders transmission criteria, transmitting the email to the one or more recipients.

2. (original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the triggering event includes a sender input.

3. (original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the triggering event corresponds to a user not aborting the transmission of the email within a specified delay period, whereupon at the end of the delay period, the email is automatically sent to the recipient(s) with no intervention.

4. (original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the triggering event corresponds to the sender opening the email and taking no action, then closing the email, whereupon the email is immediately sent to the recipient(s) with no further intervention.

5. (original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the triggering event corresponds to the sender proactively confirming that the email should be sent, whereupon the email is immediately transmitted to the recipient(s) with no intervention.

6. (original) A method as claimed in claim 3 wherein either the sender specifies the delay period or it may be globally set.

7. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the transmission step includes additional intervening steps such as spooling the email or handling the email by mail-servers or any other operations as may be required by the particular email implementation or system architecture.

8. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein following presenting the email to the sender ~~step (c) in claim~~

±, the sender amends the email and initiates a send operation in accordance with either the intercepting step (b) in claim 1 whereupon the email ~~in~~ is again subjected to the transmission criteria, or the email is processed in accordance with the transmitting step (d) in claim 1 whereupon the email is immediately transmitted to the ~~recipient(s)~~ one or more recipients with no further intervention.

9. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 including ~~the step of~~ checking whether the sender is listed as a recipient of the email and if the sender is identified as a co-recipient of the email, processing the email ~~is processed~~ in accordance with the presenting step (e) above, otherwise transmitting the email ~~is transmitted~~ immediately to the one or more recipients.

10. (previously presented) A computer or network of computers adapted to operate in accordance with the method of claim 1.

11. (previously presented) Computer readable media adapted to operate a computer or network of computers in accordance with claim 1.

12. (currently amended) A method of handling electronic mail (email), comprising ~~including the steps of:~~

intercepting an email composed and sent by a sender to one ore more recipients;

presenting the email to the sender, in editable form, for approval; and

following approval, transmitting the email to the one or more recipients.